

and the inheritance of acquired characters. On the other hand, Mlle Richter admits that his views were also profoundly influenced by Darwinism, and she is disposed to think that the most valuable contribution which Nietzsche has made to modern thought will ultimately be found in that part of his teaching which has been inspired by the Darwinian doctrine of natural selection. This is, at all events, the aspect of Nietzsche's philosophy which is of most interest to the Eugenist, who, if he cannot pretend to accept the message of Zarathustra as a scientific evangel, may nevertheless find in many of its glowing passages a fine poetical presentation of the ideal of race-betterment. Mlle Richter's volume is a valuable addition to Nietzschean literature.

Mosso, ANGELO. *The Dawn of Mediterranean Civilisation.* (London, T. Fisher Unwin; 1910; pp. xxiii, 424); 16s. net.

THE late Professor Mosso succeeded in popularising the important results of Cretan excavations for European pre-history. In this well illustrated volume he draws from these results a picture of neolithic Europe. Here "we have to do with our real progenitors, and we shall see that they, the discoverers of copper and bronze, were less barbarous than they were believed to be." It is these men "with the oval or long heads and dark hair" who have "led forth the human race from barbarism." All this is useful by way of making more generally known the probable origin of the so-called "Caucasian." But the author did not carry his anthropological enquiries as far as the latest views. For instance, he frequently mentions the "men with round heads from the East of Europe," but he adds "before the Asiatic race was crossed with the Mediterranean, the skull of the Europeans had already obtained its maximum development. No improvement in the physical constitution of man was brought about by invasions from the East, and it may be said that the evolution of our race was already arrested before the neolithic period."

This last statement expresses an obsolete view, and is in any case very misleading. The Eastern immigrant is, of course, *homo Alpinus*, who is also obsolescent in the realms of theory.

The author makes much of the indications afforded by various statues as to the existence of steatopygy. Images or figurines from Liguria, Sicily, Egypt, Crete, and elsewhere certainly represent this female peculiarity. Normal figures and slender figures are found in the same deposits. Prof. Mosso rightly rejects the hypothesis of a distinct race. Such variation, if real, and not merely due to artistic emphasising or diminishing of certain secondary sexual characters, is of considerable interest.

A. E. C.

PERIODICAL LITERATURE

SOCIOLOGICAL REVIEW, October, 1911. Professor L. T. Hobhouse: *The Value and Limitations of Eugenics.* The title of this article proclaims it to be controversial, a study of it shows that Prof. Hobhouse has weighed the balance in favour of the limitations of Eugenics. He admits that "the improvement of the stock by rational selection is in the abstract a clearly legitimate object," but he questions whether we have the "clearness of conception" and "the fulness of knowledge" that is necessary to enable us to know "what we want to breed for, and how we propose to breed for it." He raises the question of whether, in eliminating blemishes, we may not stamp out essential qualities, using as an example; tuberculosis, of which